Personal Property
(276) 328-3557
Sharon Carico, Chief Deputy
Angela Collins, Deputy
Sonia Hibbitts, Deputy
Rhonda Sturgill, Deputy
Debra Yorke, Deputy

Real Property (276) 328-3556 Rose Mary Holbrook, Deputy Jeanne Mullins, Deputy



ASSESSMENT OFFICE
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FCC Mail Room

August 19, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington DC 20554

RE:

AT&T/T-MOBILE'S PROPOSED MERGER

WT PROCEEDING NO. 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski

I currently serve as the Commissioner of Revenue for the County of Wise and am very proud of our community. I am excited to hear about a possible AT&T/T-Mobile merger and the opportunities such a merger would bring to the citizens of Wise County.

The towns of Pound and Appalachia within our County of Wise still today do not have adequate cell phone service and most of the time there is no cell phone service at all in these areas. The County has worked with Verizon for years now to bring satisfactory cell phone service to Pound and Appalachia but has not been successful thus far.

I strongly believe that the current proposal for an AT&T/T-Mobile merger will present a valuable opportunity for Wise County and its towns of Appalachia and Pound. By combining T-Mobile's and AT&T's existing resources and spectrum, AT&T will be able to extend its 4<sup>th</sup> Generation network to an additional 55 million more Americans than originally planned, including rural areas and small communities. Furthermore, the combined density of cell towers would provide stronger service, meaning fewer dropped calls, better voice quality and increased data speeds.

With the competitive edge provided by AT&T's state-of-the-art wireless technology, our businesses could realize a more level playing field with businesses located across the country and world. We could also benefit from the job creation and business innovation that often accompany major technological advancements.

Wise County Courthouse

206 East Main Street • P.O. Box 1278 • Wise, Virginia 24293

Fax (276) 328-6937

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For these reasons, I strongly request your support of the AT&T /T-Mobile merger. This merger will give Wise County's residents access to jobs, resources and technology that will offer an improved quality of life for everyone.

Sincerely,

Doug Mullins

Commissioner of Revenue

Cc: Commissioner Michael Copps Commissioner Robert McDowell Commissioner Mignon Clyburn